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POETRY.

Our Country, Boys! and all that.

Come all whose hearts beat warm and true,
For honest deed, and all that;
Who hold 'tis right, when forced, to fight
For country's sake, and all that—
Come, don't be poor traitors now,
And "aid and comfort" render
To Mexico, your country's foe,
And like some whigs, defend her.

Gird on your armor for the field—
To laurels win, and all that;
To craven souls alone that yield,
Till soundly licked, and all that!
Hear whigs refuse to vote supplies
To clothe and feed their brothers,
Disgracing with their craven cries
The prowess of their mothers.

Stand by your country, firm and fast,
Her honest fame, and all that;
There is a righteous power in that
The traitor's hope, and all that:
A traitor's hope!—what hope is that?
Base be the knaves that bear it—
And know ye, 'tis no Democrat
That has a soul to share it!

No, let the whigs that honor hold—
They've earned it well, and all that;
Except a few—they're only bold
In treason's cause, and all that:
They never loved their country's fame,
Her equal rights and freedom;
And Tory traitors own with shame
That modern Whigs exceed 'em.

COQUETTE.

A body formed under a soul,
A heart without its seat,
Where pride and falsehood hold control,
Hypocrisy its seat.
Where love and virtue cannot live,
Nor honor find its way,
A kind of thing formed to deceive,
Not made of honest clay.
Something that many seem inclined
To think their home would bless,
But surely they will ever find
'Tis naught but emptiness.

ORIGINAL.

REPORT of the Committee of the Oxford County
Teachers' Association on "Grammars and
Grammar Books, at the meeting of the Association
held at Turner, Jan. 22, 1846.

Your Committee on Grammars, and the best
method of teaching the same, having had the
same under consideration, now ask leave to Re-
port—

There is not, probably, so great a variety of
text books on any other subject taught in our
common schools as on Grammars: hence the
great labor to which your Committee have been
subjected. Of more than three hundred treat-
ises, by different authors, still extant, on the
Grammar of the English Language, your Com-
mittee went into a close examination of only
about fifty which were most easily to be obtain-
ed. Among these, we found many treatises
prepared with great care, judgment and skill.
The constant, gradual improvement, by each
successive generation, are palpable to the most
casual observer, of the different grammars, writ-
ten in different ages.

While your committee reverence antiquity,
their nursing mother, they can appreciate the
nearer approximation of the present to perfec-
tion. The latest grammars, generally, have come
nearest our ideal of what a grammar for a com-
mon-school book ought to be.

Grammar is the science which has for its ob-
ject, the laws of language. Language in its
widest acceptance may be defined to be, the ex-
pression by outward signs, of what passes in the
mind; and the laws of language must therefore
correspond with those of the intellect.

Wherever intellect is developed, language exists,
and whether it is given to man by the
Creator, or is the result of human invention, it
is impossible now to determine.

Language is the utterance, the embodiment,
so to speak, of the Spirit, and had existed for-
ges before any attempt was made to investigate
its laws. Men clothed their ideas each in what
seemed to him the most costly garb, and, not-
withstanding this lawless freedom of speech,
there is between the varying dialects, a great
similarity, as to their leading characteristics.

Words have now, however, been classified,
and their relations explained, the laws of lan-
guage deduced from the usage of the best and
most eloquent speakers and authors, with so
much clearness and simplicity, that what with-

out this science, were a vast chaos of sound, now
assume a crystalline beauty, enhanced by its
very irregularities.

What we want in a treatise on Grammar is,
not a dry and meagre skeleton, nor a fair, but
lifeless statue, but one which shall give a form
to the spirit of language, instinct with life and
beauty. With regard to the classification of
words, the grand outlines of this form, all gram-
marians, so far as we are acquainted, agree.—
Their differences in this respect being at most,
verbal. With regard to the relation of words to
one another, they differ, as well as in their style
of expression. From the quaint, and ineffectual
method of "rare Ben Johnson," the earliest
method of whom we have account, to the heavy,
ponderous, sonorous periods of his succes-
sor, Dr. Samuel Johnson, nearly a century and
a half later, there is as great a transition as
there is from the worthy doctor's grammar to
those of our own day, nearly a century later
still.

Each period, showing a great advance from
that preceding, in that simplicity of style, as
well as corrections of detail.

A wise conservatism would seem to suggest
that it were at least safe to retain the mode
sanctioned by the great majority of writers up-
on this subject, under whose system men, for
centuries have attained the art of speaking and
writing their own tongue with correctness and
elegance, and look well to see whether there is
a necessity thereof, before admitting innova-
tions,—and that we, rejecting novel doctrines
in this science, choose that for a manual, which
expresses with the greatest perspicuity and ful-
ness the commonly received principles of Eng-
lish Grammar.

Of the books which we have examined, we
shall give a particular analysis of but three.—
We pass by many highly meritorious treatises,
among which are Butler's, S. B. Goodenow's,
Brown's, and others, of which we should have
been glad to have made a particular notice, did
our limits permit, and proud to give a particular
review of Wells's, Wells's, and Fowler's Gram-
mars.

Messrs. Wells and Wells have both given ex-
cellent manuals of English Grammar. Found-
ed substantially upon the old system of Lowth
and Murray, their works in many points have
admitted improvements and alterations. A care-
ful review of and comparison between these two
works, show little essential difference between
them, still, on the whole, Wells's Grammar
seems preferable.

They agree as to the number of the parts of
speech, counting but eight. The Article being
included among Adjectives, and the Participle
with the Verb, and in their definitions there are
only slight verbal differences. They both admit
four Cases for the noun—Nominative, Posses-
sive, Objective and Independent; justly decid-
ing that, as there is as much difference between
the Nominative and Independent Cases, as be-
tween the Nominative and Objective, there is
no more propriety in ranking the former to-
gether as one Case, than the latter. Adjectives
they both divide into two classes, Descriptive
and Definitive. The class Descriptive, including
such words as express some quality or property
of the noun or pronoun to which they belong.
The class Definitive including all words that de-
fine or limit the meaning of the nouns or pro-
nouns to which they belong, thus including the
Article, and also the whole family of Adjective
pronouns, though under the head of Pronominal
Adjectives.

When we examine these authors as to Verbs,
at first they seem to differ, but a careful inspec-
tion shows that they differ only in form, their
real views of the nature and properties of the
Verb being similar.

Both admit five modes of the Verb. Wells
retaining the old name of Potential Mode, dis-
carded by Wells, who, however, retains the old
form, under the title of Potential Indicative.—
Mr. Wells calls the Participle a Mode. Mr.
Wells has what he calls the Participle Form,
made by conjugating the different tenses of the
verb to be, in connection with the Present, or
as Wells terms it, the Imperfect Participle.—
Also as to the names of the tenses they differ.
Wells retaining the old nomenclature, Present,
Imperfect, Perfect, Pluperfect, First Future and
Second Future. While Wells calls them respec-
tively Present, Past, Future, Present-Perfect,
Past-Perfect, and Future-Perfect.

In Syntax there is but little difference be-
tween these two authors, and in Prosody they
generally agree.

They are both well written, compendious,
and useful treatises. Either would convey to
an attentive learner, a large amount of useful
knowledge, and a clear and comprehensive view
of the structure of our own language.

The subjects of Analysis and Synthesis are
introduced in the first lessons of Mr. Wells, by
which the learner is taught to resolve a sentence
into the elements of which it is composed, and
again restore the same to its first being. Wells,
in his last edition, has devoted one page to the
subject of Analysis.

Mr. Wells seems to have endeavored to re-
lieve the teacher of that which properly belongs
to the learner, and, by a process purely induc-
tive, to compel him to think for himself. Fur-
ther illustrations on the black-board, or slate,
leaving blanks in sentences, to be supplied, and

a variety of exercises, questions and explana-
tions, such as every ingenious, original teacher
would of himself adopt, are constantly intro-
duced by our last author, giving sufficient hints to
enable any one who would undertake to teach,
to interest the minds of the various persons un-
der his charge. In Syntax the rules and prin-
ciples established by usage, are illustrated by
examples from the best authorities, to which are
added exercises for composition, referring to the
same principles of construction.

No one can have observed this characteristic,
in Wells's Grammar, beginning as it does with
the most simple description, gradually progress-
ing until the scholar unconsciously finds himself
the author of a very worthy composition, and
not feel that Mr. Wells has done that for the
young which no other author ever accomplish-
ed, viz: stripped the word composition of all the
terrors which are usually thrown around it by
the young.

While we highly regard Mr. Wells's book for
the great erudition and sound learning therein
exhibited, and esteem it as a book of reference,
convenient for teachers and those wishing to
complete an already advanced education, we
think that Mr. Wells, in his treatise, has accom-
plished these three things for our schools.

1st. He has given such a form to the spirit of
language, that no person who can understand
words, can study this book and not comprehend it.

2d. While he introduces new principles,
which in other treatises are so obscure, he has
so nicely placed one after the other, fitting them
to the old, that the very innovation makes the
old more plain and simple.

3d. By his numerous lessons, and frequent
suggestions to teachers, he has shown them that
in the instruction of Grammar they must exer-
cise ingenuity, possess originality, and know
how to think. In fine, we think that Mr. Wells's
book is just such as the present advanced con-
dition of our schools demand, and that, in con-
nection with his parsing book, it is the best ad-
apted to their present necessities.

Mr. Fowler presents us with a "Common
School Grammar" upon a new and philosophical
system, of which we will attempt a review.

This book is the second of a series, the first
of which is designed for beginners, and a third is
promised,—and treats chiefly upon etymology.

Like Messrs. Wells and Wells, he recognizes
but eight parts of speech, including the Article
among the Adjectives, and, unlike them, the
Participle also. He accuses Murray, and most
English grammarians of inculcating many use-
less rules about cases and genders of nouns,
modes and tenses of verbs, and other similar no-
tions, entirely foreign to our language, and
therefore tending to increase its obscurity.—
So doing, because they desired to conform our lan-
guage as nearly as possible to the Latin and
Greek,—either because they were ashamed of
their own tongue, considering discrepancies be-
tween it and the ancient tongues as discrepan-
cies, which might be artificially amended, or
that, by the study of our own language, assim-
ilated as nearly as possible to the dead languages,
scholars might acquire more easily the techni-
calities of the Greek and Roman. The first
reason is unreasonable, for the proper test of
the richness of a language is, the accuracy and
fidelity with which ideas may be expressed in
it,—not the number of inflections and variations
of which single words admit,—and tried by this
test our tongue was never found wanting.

And the latter is more unreasonable still, for
it would compel the hundred English scholars,
who would probably never study the ancient
languages, to much useless labor, that thereby
the one who would afterwards study Greek and
Latin might find his future task the easier.

Such is the substance of his objections to other
grammars, and of the reasons he adduces for
reform.

Now let us examine his proposed reforms.

First—As to names. He distinguishes them
as Common and Proper, and agrees with other
grammarians as to Gender and Number. The
term Case he dispenses with, calling nouns, as to
their situations, Agents or Objects, or Indepen-
dent. The Possessive Case he refers to the class
of Adjectives. His reasons are:—1st. "All agree
that a noun is the name of something, but the
possessive case noun is the name of anything.—
2d. If an adjective is a word added to a noun to
express some quality or circumstance respec-
ting it, then the possessive case is an adjective,
for it is always added to a noun, and al-
ways expresses the circumstance of possession."

When in such expressions as city-debt, state-
debt, city and state are called adjectives, he
thinks it would be hard to show a reason why, in
the expressions, city's-debt, state's-debt, city's
and state's are called nouns.

Under the head of Adjectives, like Wells and
Wells, he includes Adjective pronouns and Ar-
ticles—also all participles, as well as nouns of
the possessive case he calls Adjectives too.

He admits of none but personal pronouns.
But it is in the Verb that his changes, or im-
provements, are greatest. Of them he says,

"All verbs express action and may have ob-
jects after them, either near or remote" (for he
considers what in the old system is called "the
objective case governed by a preposition," as
the remote object of some verb, to which verb
it is connected by a preposition.)

By calling the Perfect participle an Adjective,
he dispenses with the Passé Verbe.

"No distinction of Verbs into active and
Neutro is made, because all neutres may be
used actively, or active verbs may be used neu-
trally on their objects. Moreover, no neutre verb,
not even *Be* is exempted from taking an object
after it. 'Be to me a friend,' implies action and
an object, as much as 'Befriend me.'"

The only tenses he admits are the Present
and the Past. The old Perfect and Pluperfect,
he passes as the auxiliary in the Present, or
Past tenses, and the Participle as a qualifying
Adjective, or, he calls it, "a verbal noun,
the object of the verb preceding."

The distinctions of Mode, or Style, as he calls
it, are three, the Familiar, answering to the old
Indicative, and like Wells and Wells, admit-
ting you as second person singular; the Solemn
Style, having thou in the second person singu-
lar, with *est* and *et* the terminations of the first
and second persons singular of the present tense,
est in the second singular of the past. The
Ancient Style, as he calls it, is the same as the
old Subjunctive Mode, called Ancient, because
less used than formerly.

The Infinitive Mode, and the Present Partic-
iple, when it has an active signification, he calls
verbal nouns, and other Participles are, accord-
ing to Mr. Fowler, verbal adjectives.

All three of the Authors whose books we have
considered, concur in the outlines of their meth-
od of teaching, their respective systems, requir-
ing of the scholar not only that he comprehend
and commit to memory each lesson, but that by
written and oral exercises he shows that he un-
derstands it—and that make his grammatical
knowledge familiar and practical. Their direc-
tions for teaching must be of great value to the
teacher, but in this department, as in others, we
give Mr. Wells the preference, for perspicuity
and fullness of directions.

Mr. Fowler's Grammar contains much less in-
formation than either of the books which we
have considered before—but the Volume in
question is one of a series, while Messrs. Wells
and Wells profess to give us in one Volume all
that they have to say upon the subject of
"speaking and writing the English Language
with propriety."

There is much ingenuity in Mr. Fowler's im-
provements, and, no doubt, it would be much
easier for a beginner to acquire the technicali-
ties of his system, than those of the old one,
even as improved by Mr. Wells, still, we doubt
if thereby one could attain any better knowl-
edge of his own language than by the old
method.

Innovation, when needless, should always be
avoided, and we have yet to learn that any one
of common intelligence has been unable by the
old method, to acquire a correct style of read-
ing and writing. It seems desirable too, that a
uniform system should prevail, at least through-
out the State, so that a teacher might go from
home and still be able to teach without becom-
ing a scholar again in the rudiments. Any one
acquainted with English Grammar, as taught by
Murray, Brown, Smith, Greene, Wells, or any
of our common school grammars, could not fail
at once to understand Wells's, as well as appre-
ciate his improvements, while Mr. Fowler's sys-
tem, being so different, would require a thor-
ough and careful study before being taught.

As we, therefore, do not see the necessity of
the reforms proposed by Mr. Fowler, we give
Mr. Wells's Grammar the preference over his,
as well as over Mr. Wells's Grammar.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

M. B. BARTLETT, Chairman.

THE STORY TELLER.

A BEAR STORY.

The old saying, a rolling stone gathers no moss,
may hold good in some instances, but in others,
it amounts to about three cents in the dollar.—
So much for the beginning—at least such is my
experience; and in giving it as such, I hope the
reader will pardon me for dealing in mystics.

I have aversion to mystics, &c. &c. but when
a rare chance offers, and a moral can be drawn
therefrom, I may be excused for giving Jim
Higgins's account of the mysterious Pilot, which
is true to the best of my belief and knowledge.

"Afore the steam-boats came in fashion," said
Jim, "old Bill Reese and myself used to take at
least one trip to Orleans once a year on *flats*.—
We had over fifteen hundred miles to walk, and
the produce of our journey of the State. We
always went together, that when one of us
would get into a bad drive, we could whip our-
selves out without trouble. We had been down
with a load, and made considerable a day on
our purchases. Known the trade would
keep up for more'n a short season, we
started back home to buy up another cargo.—
We had over fifteen hundred miles to walk, and
knowing that, we set our trotters to work, and in
less than six days we were home, and then—"

"Guess you were a little tired about then?" in-
terrupted one of the passengers.

"Tired! but I had it out of my darsin! We
commenced buyin up produce, and at the end
of ten days, we had two new boats built, and fill-
ed with such articles as we wanted, and floatin
down the river with coldest listin! When we
got to the Mississippi, we just let our flats *smooth*
the surface of the water according to their own
notion. I think we had been in the river two
days, runnin sometimes over twenty miles a hour,
when my boat run aground on one of them cursed
sand-banks; and there I staid for more'n a
week. I was out a handin one day, just for
amusement, and I tread one of the coldest bare
ever raised in Arkansas! I staid in after a
hard fight, got in aboard, and tied 'em to a big
cable. I had a old fiddle aboard, and was givin

in lessons in dancin a day or two afterwards,
when I looked up to drink, and saw—

"What?" chimed several voices, "saw what?"

"The first steam-boat that ever flattered a
wheel on the Mississippi and if you'll believe
me, it was me!"

"What next?"

"Well, first I believe she was drivin every
flatterer, altho' in the river before her. My
bar jumped overboard, and I was near followin
as the steam flatterer did by me; but just then some-
thing jerked my flat plum luse the island, and
she took rite after the steam critter first as the
nater of the ocean would let 'er! Well, first I
saw coth up, and for a hour or two we had it
interestin—the steam-boat was bjin! and the
flat don't mention it! She dived before as ever
as the wind, and the way the critter pulled and
blowed after us, wasn't fast enuff to ketch up!—
What was the matter with my craft, I didn't
know! She was ridin like a dancin fether and
throwing the water from one bank to the other.
I began to get sheepish, but knowin I could cut
the cable, she could run to the Gulf of Mex-
ico, I let her rip! I test-tuted my fiddle, and
played to kill time. It was the purtyest
wether in the world, and I enjoyed it amaz-
ingly. The breezes stretched my collars beautifuly
and the moon would peep down once in a while
to see what I was drivin at! I was alone, but had
no use for company. The flat was now turnin
the most dangerous bend in all the river, whar
I know'd she'd be apt to run agin one of the
free and independent enags, and sure enuff—

"She did!" exclaimed several of the listeners.

"And sure enuff, afore I had time to say Jack
Robinson, or draw my bow across my fiddle; I
saw one snag and another just below it, and—"

"She bursted herself agin 'em?" said one or
two.

"When she got to 'em," continued Jim, "they
wasn't there! I found 'em about as far ahead as
they wur when I first seed 'em. In the mornin
I looked out and there they was—just as far apart
—a splitlin the water like a lightnin pole.—
What was they? I asked myself; but it's no
use; that evenin' my boat was piloted to Orleans
and she run up to the levee handsonely, belin
only a few hours out from the sand-bag, and
beatin the steam-boat a day and a half; and now
gentleman, all said—after this beautiful instance
of mysteriously out-running a steamboat,—what
power do you suppose carried it along?"

"The tide forced by the fish and alligators?"
said a knowing Jake.

"A sudden rise, when I take down your sign!"
said another.

Some guessed one thing, some another, and
so on, until Jim, recovering his strength, for he
was feeble, rose to his full height, and said—

"Gentleman, you may think as you please,
but it was *nothing* else but that bar that was tied
to the cable."

"Mr. Higgins! have you got the papers?"
said one.

"Yes, sir! but I've left 'em in my pocket-book
in general, nor would we wish our readers to be-
lieve, from the fact of our giving publicity to the
following, that we are entirely converted into
willing editors. We give the statement ex-
actly as it was stated to us by Mr. Cruze, who
resides at the stock farm of the Iron Works,
McKinney, on Onion creek, about nine miles
south-west from this city. Mr. Cruze states that
some time since he was informed by Merienda
Moros, a Mexican, who now resides at East An-
tonio, that he (Moros) had seen about six years
ago, very high upon the Colorado river, a snake
or serpent of such enormous size, that it could
easily destroy the largest animal found in this
country; such as deers, bears, panthers, and e-
ven full grown buffaloes. It was also represent-
ed that this large serpent, for the distance of f-
e or six hundred yards could surpass in footness
the fastest horse. The statement was corrobor-
ated by one Carlos Indians, who now live on
or near the premises of Mr. Cruze; and from
their willingness to accompany him to the place
where they had stated they had seen the snake,
Cruze finally concluded to go with them to the
place designated. After traveling six days and
a half up the west side of the Colorado, the In-
dians announced themselves in the immediate
vicinity of the spot where the serpent had been
seen. All were now busy in examining for
signs, and in a short time they came on a large
track, or trail, which evidently had been made
by something of the snake kind. Following this
trail, which is represented by Mr. Cruze, as be-
ing about four feet in width, they were soon led
to a considerable water hole in a valley near the
foot of a mountain. They then retraced their
steps to the place where they had first discover-
ed the trail, which they had confidence to follow,
and at the foot or on the side of the mountain,
which is about a mile from the aforesaid water-
hole, they discovered something resembling the
entrance of a cavern, to which the trail evident-
ly led. After approaching within about six or
seven hundred yards of the mouth of the cave,
the Indians halted, and heisted that it was high-
ly dangerous to advance any farther; and, on
an intimation of Cruze that he was willing to
make a further advance they positively declared
that it would be impossible for him to escape if
he should do so. They stated that some years
ago there was a similar serpent discovered high
up on Red river; that it pursued and caught an
Indian who had always been acknowledged the
fleetest of his tribe, and who could run as fast
as a horse. They said this Indian had
the boldness to advance within four or five hun-
dred yards of the den of the snake. The fierce
animal, on perceiving him, instantly darted forth
in pursuit, and in a very short time overtook
and devoured him. This they stated was wit-
nessed by their chief and several others who
had repaired thither on the fastest horses they
could procure, to witness the Indians' temerity.
After this, the Chief gave orders for none of
their tribe to hunt within twenty miles of the
haunt of this horrible monster.

Mr. Cruze listened to their tale with some
trepidation, but having more confidence in the
ability of his horse (which was a fine blood get-
ting) to take him out of danger than they did, he
advanced within about three hundred yards of
the mouth of the cavern, where he halted, be-
lieving it unsafe to approach nearer. From this
position he could plainly see a huge mass lying
in the entrance of the cavern, which he at once
discovered to be something having life; for he
could observe it slightly vibrate. It may seem
strange that at the distance of three hundred
yards the ordinary vibrations caused by the
breathing of even as ponderous an animal as this
could be discernable to the naked eye—in truth,
we were of the opinion that this part of the story
emanated more from imagination than reality,
but when we were informed that the view of this

"I say it is turkey, and he jippers I ought to
know, for I went after it," persisted the serv-
ant.

"Do you mean to tell me, sir," inquired the
gentleman in a tone of severity, "I don't know
turkey from real?"

"No faith," says Pat, "I shant tell ye any-
thing of the kind, for maybe you've been raised
on the butcherin business and ought to know,
but I'll take my oath that I got the *rale*, if vale
it is, aff the turkey plate!" St. Louis Kettle.

THE DOCTOR AND HIS HOUSE.—Stations
persons are sometimes surprisingly ignorant how
to act on ordinary occasions. A Scottish paper
says that Dr. Chalmers came home one evening
on horseback, and as neither the man who had
the charge of his horse nor the key of the stable
could be found, he was for some time not a little
puzzled where to find a temporary residence for
the animal. At last he fixed on the garden as the
fittest place he could think of for the pur-
pose; and, having led the horse thither, he placed
it on the garden walk. When his sister, who
had also been from home, returned, and was
told that the key of the stable could not be found,
she inquired what had been done with the horse.
"I took it to the garden," said the doctor.

"To the garden?" she exclaimed; "then all
our flower and vegetable beds will be destroy-
ed."

"Don't be afraid of that," said the doctor,
"for I took particular care to place the horse on
the garden walk."

"And did you really imagine," rejoined the
sister, "that he would remain there?"

"I have no doubt of it," said the doctor; "for
so sagacious an animal as the horse could not but
be aware of the propriety of refraining from in-
juring the products of the garden."

"I am afraid," said Miss Chalmers, "that you
will think less favorably of the discretion of the
horse when you have seen the garden."

To decide the controversy by an appeal to
facts, they went to the garden, and found, from
the ruthless devastation which the trampling and
rolling of the animal had spread over every part
of it, that the natural philosophy of the horse
was a subject with which the lady was far more
accurately acquainted than her learned brother.

"I never could have imagined," said the doc-
tor, "that horses were such senseless animals!"

A TEXAS SNAKE STORY.

The subjoined snake story from the Texas
Democrat, will compare favorably with the Sea
Serpent of Cape Cod memory. Texas is a great
country, but as the unquenchable thirst of Mis-
sissippi, they have some very great fears there
for a new country.

THE LARGEST SNAKE YET. We are not
in the habit of giving credence to snake stories
in general, nor would we wish our readers to be-
lieve, from the fact of our giving publicity to the
following, that we are entirely converted into
willing editors. We give the statement ex-
actly as it was stated to us by Mr. Cruze, who
resides at the stock farm of the Iron Works,
McKinney, on Onion creek, about nine miles
south-west from this city. Mr. Cruze states that
some time since he was informed by Merienda
Moros, a Mexican, who now resides at East An-
tonio, that he (Moros) had seen about six years
ago, very high upon the Colorado river, a snake
or serpent of such enormous size, that it could
easily destroy the largest animal found in this
country; such as deers, bears, panthers, and e-
ven full grown buffaloes. It was also represent-
ed that this large serpent, for the distance of f-
e or six hundred yards could surpass in footness
the fastest horse. The statement was corrobor-
ated by one Carlos Indians, who now live on
or near the premises of Mr. Cruze; and from
their willingness to accompany him to the place
where they had stated they had seen the snake,
Cruze finally concluded to go with them to the
place designated. After traveling six days and
a half up the west side of the Colorado, the In-
dians announced themselves in the immediate
vicinity of the spot where the serpent had been
seen. All were now busy in examining for
signs, and in a short time they came on a large
track, or trail, which evidently had been made
by something of the snake kind. Following this
trail, which is represented by Mr. Cruze, as be-
ing about four feet in width, they were soon led
to a considerable water hole in a valley near the
foot of a mountain. They then retraced their
steps to the place where they had first discover-
ed the trail, which they had confidence to follow,
and at the foot or on the side of the mountain,
which is about a mile from the aforesaid water-
hole, they discovered something resembling the
entrance of a cavern, to which the trail evident-
ly led. After approaching within about six or
seven hundred yards of the mouth of the cave,
the Indians halted, and heisted that it was high-
ly dangerous to advance any farther; and, on
an intimation of Cruze that he was willing to
make a further advance they positively declared
that it would be impossible for him to escape if
he should do so. They stated that some years
ago there was a similar serpent discovered high
up on Red river; that it pursued and caught an
Indian who had always been acknowledged the
fleetest of his tribe, and who could run as fast
as a horse. They said this Indian had
the boldness to advance within four or five hun-
dred yards of the den of the snake. The fierce
animal, on perceiving him, instantly darted forth
in pursuit, and in a very short time overtook
and devoured him. This they stated was wit-
nessed by their chief and several others who
had repaired thither on the fastest horses they
could procure, to witness the Indians' temerity.
After this, the Chief gave orders for none of
their tribe to hunt within twenty miles

entrance of the cavern was wholly unobstructed, and the sun being on the decline, threw the full force of its light immediately on the portion of the serpent perceptible, we became less astonished at the statement, and readily believed that such a thing might be possible, inasmuch as the circumference of the snake was estimated at not less than seven feet. To raise the language of Mr. Cruz, "it seemed as large or larger than the chest of a large horse." As but a few feet of the serpent were seen in consequence of its position in the mouth of the cavern, its full length could not be even roughly estimated, but Cruz, judging from the usual length of snakes, in proportion to their thickness, supposed this could not have been less than sixty feet long. From the advantage given by the light of the sun, he was enabled to distinguish that the skin of the serpent was variegated with large and small spots of black, and a dusky reddish color.

The Caddo Indians stated that it was about a mile west of the present den where they first saw it; this led Cruz to believe that there were others of the same kind in that region, for it was evident that the present occupant of the cavern, or some other of a similar description, had inhabited it for a great while, as there was an immense quantity of the bones of different animals scattered around its entrance for at least two hundred and fifty yards. He suggested to the Indians the probability that this was not the snake they had before seen, and proposed making search for another. This proposition was instantly objected to. They said that in searching for another snake, they might accidentally come too close upon one before discovering him, or in that event, the immediate destruction of the whole party would be inevitable. Cruz, however, was determined on a reconnaissance of the approximate country, and when the Indians found out his determination they followed him with much "fear and trembling." They made a circuit around the mountain, never venturing nearer than a half mile of the cavern, and using great caution, lest they should come in accidental contact with one of those terrific monsters. No important discoveries, however, were made, excepting several other trails of the same kind as that leading to the waterhole, all of which converged towards the above mentioned cave. This induced the belief that there probably might be an immense den of these huge serpents in the cavern, which opinion, the facts as stated, would certainly, in a considerable degree justify.

Cruz and his Indian guides returned to the settlements without extending the area of their discoveries any further, being well satisfied that the upper Colorado, in the way of snakes, "can't be beat."

Mr. Cruz is anxious to get a company of fifteen or twenty well armed men, mounted on the fleetest horses that can be procured, to accompany him on a second expedition to the cavern (which he says he can find without any trouble) to make further discoveries concerning the location of the entrance, and to see if he can find the entrance of two or three passages, or as soon thereafter as a sufficient number of men are ready to accompany him.

DEATH OF CAPT. M. E. MERRILL.

By request of the friends of the deceased, who fell in the battle before the City of Mexico, we publish below the official report of the doings of the 5th Regiment, and also an article from a Wisconsin paper.

Capt. Merrill was a native of Brunswick, in this State, and had a numerous circle of friends in this County, to whom these articles will be of special interest.

Capt. Merrill was engaged in the war from its commencement, being among the first ordered to Corpus Christi, and here among his brother officers, an unblemished reputation, and a character as a soldier of which his friends may well feel proud.

Copy of Capt. Chapman's Report of the operations of the 5th Regiment on the 8th of Sept., at Molino del Rey.

Head quarters 5th Infantry, Tacubaya, Mexico, Sept. 10th, 1847.

Sir, In obedience to your orders I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the 5th Infantry during the eighth inst.

At about three o'clock on the morning of the 8th inst. the regiment was formed under arms and marched to the vicinity of the Bishop's palace, where it took position on the right of the 2d brigade. After a short delay we were ordered to follow the light battery of Bvt. Lieut. Col. Duncan, and advanced in that position about two miles, when we were formed in line of battle on the left of the battery, approached the enemy's line at the powder magazine, and within about 400 yards a most galling fire was opened upon us.

The regiment paused for one moment to deliver its fire, and then advanced in very good order until within 20 yards of the magazine, when a rifle and destructive fire of the enemy caused it to halt behind a ditch extending in front of the works.

More than one third of the regiment was either killed or wounded. The commanders of the brigade and regiment, the attending surgeon and several other officers disabled.

The enemy were in a most admirable position for defence, and in overwhelming numbers, but their works might have been carried, (with a very heavy loss, however,) if a simultaneous movement could have been made; but after remaining in this close proximity to the enemy for some time, the very improper and illegal order was given to the regiment to fall back on Duncan's battery, and all the efforts of the officers were ineffectual in preventing the men from obeying it.

The regiment remained on the field of battle during the remainder of the forenoon, and after collecting their dead and wounded, were ordered back to this position.

Death had been busy in our ranks and struck at the gallant and brave.

Bvt. Col. McIntosh temporarily in command of the brigade, and was twice wounded while gallantly engaged in urging on the command.

He is happily still preserved to us.

Bvt. Col. Scott commanding the regiment was very active, as he always was, in leading and urging on the regiment to the charge. When within about twenty yards of the enemy he received a mortal wound, and almost immediately expired.

He left no braver or more gallant soldier to lament his fall, and must his wife with his face to the enemy at the head of his command.

The conscientious, gallant and noble Merrill was detached with the storming party, and fell early in the action, while waving his sword above his head, and urging on his men to the charge. He fell too soon for his country, but covered with glory acquired in many battle fields.

Assistant surgeon Wm. Roberts was again found at San Antonio in the most exposed position, attending to the wounded, and encouraging to the contest—but he was not permitted to escape unhurt, and was cut down and severely wounded in the midst of his usefulness.

Lieut. C. S. Hamilton commanding "P" company, was severely wounded early in the action, while urging on his company, but braved himself up with assistance and continued cheering, and encouraging his men, until they were beyond the reach of his voice.

Lieut. Strong passed on as far as the regiment advanced and was conspicuous for his noble conduct. As he was actively and untiringly engaged in urging his men to halt and make another charge, he received another ball in the heart which killed him instantly.

Lieut. Burwell, Aid-de-camp to the brigade commander, came under your immediate notice but I can bear testimony to his distinguished zeal and bravery. He has been cut off in the morning of a glorious career.

To the gallant survivors Lieut. and Adj. P. Lugenbeck, Lieut. and Reg. Quartermaster S. H. Fowler, Captains D. Ruggles and D. H. McPhail, 1st Lieut. N. B. Russell, and 2d Lieut. J. P. Smith I tender my warmest thanks for the able assistance afforded me at a trying hour, and from personal observation and the reports of others, I know that they did all that men could by their example, to encourage, rally, and cheer on the command.

Owing to my position as a company commander on the left of the regiment, I could only witness personally the gallantry and zeal displayed by Capt. McPhail and 1st Lieut. Ford, and others, I know that they did all that men could by their example, to encourage, rally, and cheer on the command.

1st Lieut. Rosecrans, who has distinguished himself in nearly every battle during the war, was unfortunately confined to his quarters by sickness and could not be out with us.

My attention has been particularly called by their commanders to the very marked gallantry and good conduct displayed by Sergeant Samuel Smith of "A," Sergeant Henry Farmer, slightly wounded, and private Jacob E. Davis, of "B," Sergeant Alexander McAllen, mortally wounded, and Geo. Daily and private James Ludlow, of "G," and Sergeant John Henderson of "K," companies 5th Infantry.

The regiment went into action, including Capt. Merrill's command, with 14 officers and 361 rank and file.

Of these, Bvt. Lieut. Col. Scott, commanding the regiment, Capt. M. E. Merrill, 2nd Lieut. Strong, 2nd Lieut. Burwell, and twenty three rank and file were killed. Bvt. Col. McIntosh, commanding the brigade, assistant surgeon Wm. Roberts, 2d Lieut. C. S. Hamilton, and eighty-eight rank and file wounded, three since dead, seven missing, very probably killed.

Respectfully submitted,
[Signed] Wm. Chapman,
Capt. 5th Infantry, Commanding regiment.

From the Wisconsin Republican.

For twelve or fourteen years Capt. Merrill was stationed at this post, and for some time was its commanding officer. And never was there a commander who gave more general satisfaction, or who, in a greater degree, possessed the respect and esteem of all classes of our citizens.

As an officer, he was brave, just and meritorious; as a gentleman, honorable, urbane, courteous; as a husband and parent, affectionate and indulgent. Although it is some years since this gallant officer left us, yet his worth and virtues are treasured in our memories, and his noble deeds are embalmed in hearts. Long will we cherish his memory, and manifold are the tears shed for his premature loss.

The writer of this imperfect sketch has known Capt. M. E. Merrill since 1828, and has been in his company and employment daily for many years; and a more gallant, noble minded officer and gentleman he never knew. He was rightly honored in the sphere of his duties as Quartermaster and Assistant Commissary of subsistence at Fort Howard which post he held for several years. Every station he held he did honor to—he was an honor to the service, and a credit to the country he so faithfully served; and where he was stationed, since he graduated from the military academy in 1826, he won golden opinions from a host of friends.

It is a consolation to his heart stricken widow and fatherless children to know that he did not leave them much worldly wealth, he left them an unimpaired fame; he was rich indeed in all that endures man. He ratified his fealty to his beloved country on the battle fields of Mexico, and may not that country forget his widow and orphan children, who are now left without a protector or father.

The noble minded Merrill is gone, the gallant Scott is no more! Who the next victim may be in this bloody war we know not. There are many yet in our little army there, when we love and cannot spare. Chapman and Marcy, Ruggles, Drs. Wright and Porter, Major Sumner and others. We hope they will be preserved to their families and country.

The whole of Mexico would not compensate for our poor poor opinion, for the loss to his family, the service and his country, of such an officer as Capt. Merrill. To his beloved companion, his loss is irreparable; but the time may not be distant when they may meet in that clime where sickness and sorrow, pain and death, are felt and feared no more.

Gov. Young of New York calls the attention of the Legislature of that state to this subject in the following terms:

"It is one of the offices of Christian civilization, to cultivate a kindly and delicate regard for the remains of deceased friends; hence the emotions that are felt as we linger in silence among the resting places of the dead. It has been suggested that legislation in this respect should be confined to the officers, inasmuch as it would be difficult, if not impossible, to identify the bodies of soldiers belonging to this state. I think, however, it will be found that in most cases they have been buried separately from other dead. If so, a small appropriation would effect this much to be desired and humane object—the bodies of many of our officers of the higher grades have been brought home by their relatives or by the kindness of friends and I respectfully recommend that provision be made by the State for bringing back the remains of the residue of the soldiers and officers, that such of them may be delivered to their kindred and friends as may be ready to receive them—and that for the residue of the gallant dead a common resting place may be provided; and if not too difficult to be obtained, in ground made classic by revolutionary scenes."

When Mr. Ashmun's amendment to the resolution of thanks to Gen. Taylor was first carried declaring that the war was "unnecessarily and unconstitutionally begun by the President of the United States," the National Intelligencer hailed it as "a great truth nobly vindicated."

The Intelligencer went on to declare, that "the House of Representatives yesterday signified itself by a homages to truth—the more brilliant and striking, because unexpected at so early a day in the session, though not doubted in due end by those who believe, as we do, that the ultimate triumph of truth over error is certain."

But no sooner did the indignant sentiment of the public denounce this denunciation, and present the whig party in this embarrassing dilemma, than the whig caucus, as it is said, met, and determined to abandon this "noble" amendment, the next time that the resolution should come up. What will the National Intelligencer next say about this contemplated change? Union.

OXFORD DEMOCRAT.

PARIS, MAINE, FEBRUARY 1, 1848.

"The Union—must be preserved."

NOMINATIONS BY THE GOVERNOR.—Samuel H. Blake of Bangor, Attorney General, in place of Wyman B. S. Moor, appointed United States Senator.

Richard D. Rice, Judge of the District Court for the Middle District, Judge Redington resigned.

Daniel Williams, Judge of Probate for Kennebec County.

NATIONAL CONVENTION.

The Washington Union of the 24th ult. says, "A full meeting of the republican members of both houses of Congress was held to-night in the Capitol. A report from the joint committee of both houses, appointed at a former meeting, was made, recommending to the republican party to hold the national convention for the nomination of President and Vice President, at the usual time and place—viz. at Baltimore, on the 4th Monday of May. Motions were successively made to substitute Cincinnati as the place, and the 4th of July as the time of meeting; both of which were rejected. And then the original report of the joint committee was unanimously adopted, and the meeting adjourned at an early hour in the best feeling and spirits. We avoid further details, because an official account of the proceedings is directed to be published in the democratic papers."

The Union adds, "It begins to be time to organize the party, and prepare for the approaching campaign. We take it for granted, that the nominees of the national convention will meet with the unqualified support of the democratic party. Of the result we do not permit ourselves to entertain a doubt. We never entertained a more confident conviction of the success of the democratic candidate. We cannot be defeated by any man, or any combination—by any coalition or any caste of characters—let the whig candidates be who they may—with discretion and energy, union of council, and firmness of principle on the part of the republicans."

The whigs not infrequently speak of Mexico as a powerful nation of eight millions of inhabitants, which the United States can never conquer; but the Waldo Signal calls it "a nation disjointed in every part," and thinks our idea that, "if we offered no resistance," Mexico would continue to trample on our rights, and finally bring us into a condition of ignorance and oppression similar to her own, "ridiculous," and so it would be, did we defend ourselves, but if we offered no resistance," she could very easily subvert us, especially as she would have the aid of Mexican-whig allies.

This same editor says, "the squandering of a goose once saved Rome, and intimates that our timely interposition at the present crisis has averted peril from our country." Thank you for the compliment. For its noble acts the goose has ever been respected.

The Signal countenances the war by supporting one of its heroes for the Presidency, and at the same time applauds Clay's Lexington speech, and opposes the war. This reminds us of the bat, that, when the beasts and birds were engaged in battle, undertook to save its bacon by claiming to be both bird and beast, and for this cowardly act, has ever since been a thing of darkness, held in utter contempt, both by birds and beasts. An excellent associate for the editor of the Signal. The sympathy between them would no doubt be mutual.

The editor of the Signal calls the Democrat "the Great Bear, the Polar Star of Oxford County." "All true. But what a contemptible thing is a "Waldo Coon," compared to an "Oxford Bear."

The Signal man concludes his chaste and characteristic notice of us as follows: "Notwithstanding the low state of degeneracy in which the Democrat plunges us, we are not so far down but that we can distinguish the braying of a jackass from the roaring of a lion."

And it would be very strange indeed, if he could not distinguish his own voice from the voice of not his animal, the lion.

Dr. V. P. Coolidge was arraigned before the Supreme Court at Augusta last Tuesday, for the murder of Edward Matthews in Waterville, Sept. 30; but in consequence of the sickness of a government witness, the Court was adjourned till the second Tuesday in March.

The jurors drawn for the term were present, but a jury was not empanelled to try the prisoner. The Court advised them all, nearly a hundred, to form no opinions and hold no conversations on the murder.

Mrs. Gen. Gains has at last prevailed in her great lawsuit for millions, the U. S. Court now sitting at Washington having given an opinion in her favor. She has expended a large fortune in costs, the fees of each of her attorneys Walter Jones, Reverdy Johnson, and L. J. Barry, being \$50,000.

The democratic party is the patriotic party; it is the party jealous of national honor. Hence it is that every measure taken to maintain the honor of the nation, or to enhance its real prosperity, has been taken by the democratic party amidst the most violent, and all but treasonable hostility of the whigs.

The best cough drops for young ladies are to drop the practice of dressing thin when they go out in the night air.

HAVE COURAGE.

Have courage to confess ignorance whenever, or in regard to whatever subject, you really are uninformed.

Have courage to treat difficulties as you would noxious weeds—attack them as soon as seen. Nothing grows so fast.

Have the courage to meet a creditor. You must be a gainer by the interview, even if you learn the worst. We are our own deceivers.

Have the courage to own that you are poor; and if you can, laugh at your poverty. By so doing, you disarm enemies, and deceive nobody. You avoid many difficulties, bitterness; and besides, there are a people who will not believe you, especially those who make the same acknowledgment as a pretext for meanness.

Have the courage to be silent when a fool prates. He will cease the sooner. Besides, what can he or you gain by prolonging the conversation?

Have the courage to receive a poor relation openly and kindly. His shabby appearance—open his ignorance—will appear to your advantage for the mind is prone to draw comparisons. We have nothing to be ashamed of but our own errors.

Have the courage to carry a cheap umbrella; you will discover why when you lean it.

Have the courage to subscribe for a newspaper, and not depend upon borrowing your neighbor's; but, above all, have the courage to pay for it IN ADVANCE, and then it will be yours.

SONGS FOR THE PEOPLE.—This is the title of a monthly publication, of the size of the Ladies' Book, designed to give specimens of the fine arts of Poetry, Painting and Music. The design is a happy one, and judging from the first and second numbers, it will be as happily executed. Accompanying many of the songs is an account of their origin, imparting a lively interest to them; they are also illustrated by beautiful engravings. It must be a favorite with all who have any music in their souls.

Published by G. B. Zieber & Co., Philadelphia, at \$3 a year. Specimens may be seen at this office, and we will forward subscriptions if desired.

THE UNION MAGAZINE. The February No. of this beautiful publication has been received. It is splendidly embellished, and from a cursory examination of its pages, we judge it is richly filled with interesting matter.

Published by Israel D. Post, 140 Nassau St., New York. Terms, \$3 a year; two copies for \$5. Subscriptions will be received and forwarded by us.

GODFREY'S LADY'S BOOK. The February No. has been received. It is one of the best Magazines published in the Union. This No. contains half a dozen elegant engravings. For terms, &c., see notice in another column.

THE LADY'S DOLLAR NEWSPAPER, is the title of a journal, published once in two weeks, recently started in Philadelphia, by L. A. Godfrey, and edited by Grace Greenwood.

THE JOHN DONKEY. No. 4 of this rich and witty weekly has been received. No one would imagine so stupid a beast could show so much wit. The way he brings the erratic and mischievous "up to the rack, saddle or no saddle," with the cutting but strong halter of sarcasm, is a caution to sinners. "Mr. Clay's Salutations," in this number, is a most capital illustration.

THE RICHMOND STAR says—"Folks who don't like the way newspapers are edited, ought to ask leave to put in a specimen of the right sort. Every man that thinks it easy to edit a paper exactly right, and to universal acceptance ought to try it. May be he would succeed, and if so he would be better entitled to a reward than the discoverer of perpetual motion."

MR. CLAY Laid ON THE SHELF. The writer in the Portland Advertiser who has been discussing the merits of whig candidates for the Presidency, in his last article comes to the conclusion that Mr. Clay is not a suitable candidate, because he does not come out against slavery. He says—"The people will never elect him President of the United States."

A Philadelphia paper states that three colored persons have died at Moyamensing recently of positive starvation.

No slave in the United States ever died of involuntary starvation.

About \$5000 worth of the best French Brandy was seized last Thursday in Portland, and deposited in the Custom House for violation of the Revenue laws.

A DUNN WELL DONE. A tradesman wrote to his customer who was in his debt—"Sir, if you will let me have the amount of my bill you will oblige me—if not I must oblige you."

The editors of the Washington Union have been re-admitted to the usual privilege of seats on the floor of the Senate, from which they were excluded at the last session.

Rev. Jason Whitman, of Lexington, died in Portland on Tuesday, of pleurisy, aged 49 years. He left his home in good health, to attend the funeral of the late Senator Fairfield, his wife's brother. Mr. Whitman was much esteemed in Lexington, where he has been for three years pastor of the Unitarian church.

A man who retires from business and lives on the interest of his money, may be said to be resting on his oars.—Della.

Owe, dear!

THE PROSPECTS OF PEACE.

Washington, Jan. 26, 12 o'clock.—The rumor of treaty with Mexico is gaining credence. Captain Ker, of the dragoons, from Vera Cruz, has arrived here. He is bearer of despatches for the government. Much anxiety and fear are felt as to their purport. The report of Scott's arrest and rumors of peace are creating an excitement which will give a new turn to legislation.

The Union says that no official confirmation of these rumors has been received, but supposes that Mr. Trist, without authority, is receiving Mexican proposals. A distinguished officer, previously alluded to, writing from Vera Cruz the 3d inst., says that Gen. Scott has expressed his opinion there will be peace soon.

From the N. Y. Courier & Enquirer.

Peace with Mexico.—We are indebted to a gentleman of high character in New Orleans, who has the very best means of hearing what is being done in Mexico, for the following letter. That Mr. Trist has communicated to the administration the fact of having brought the negotiation to a close, admits of no question. That Mexico has agreed to terms far more onerous than the people of the United States will insist upon, we have no doubt; nor do we doubt, that within sixty days all our difficulties with Mexico will be satisfactorily adjusted.

New Orleans, Jan. 15.—Dear Sir—I have information from a source on which full reliance may be placed, that Mr. Trist has actually signed a treaty, and that a messenger with it may be expected by the next arrival from Vera Cruz. Yours, truly.

There have been two or more arrivals at New Orleans since the 16th, but the bearer of the treaty has not yet been heard of.

Mr. Black, of U. S. house of representatives, had received a letter from Gen. Twiggs, dated at Vera Cruz on the 13th stating that the courier had brought word from Gen. Scott that peace would be secured before April 1st. There were other letters in Washington to the same effect, and one from Mr. Hodges, the New Orleans correspondent of the Intelligencer, which says that no official despatches of any kind relating to this rumored negotiation had been received.

Later from Mexico.

New Orleans dates are to the 20th. Steamers New Orleans, from Vera Cruz 14th inst., arrived at New Orleans on the 18th. The report of the attack on Col. Miles's train is confirmed. The loss of goods falls principally on the merchants, one English house losing \$54,000. The French and Spanish merchants recovered their goods by paying smartly. The portion of the train cut off had incautiously lagged behind.

Col. Miles could not wait for them to come up, but left a guard of 25 men behind, which was totally inadequate against the sudden onset of 400 guerrillas.

Advices from Mexico city to the 1st Jan. are that Gen. Scott had issued an order assessing upon the twenty one states of Mexico occupied by our troops an annual tax amounting to about \$2,000,000. There is nothing in that looking like peace. Padre Jarauta with 800 guerrillas, on the 27th ult., proceeded to within 8 miles of the city of Mexico, but the dragoons are after him. A rumor was also at Mexico that Col. Withers's command, which left on the 26th for Real del Monte, had been cut to pieces. The Star does not believe it.

Dates from Queretaro are to the 28th Dec.—Hopes entertained there that the approaching congress would have a quorum. A letter of the 26th says that all parties are agreed not to send commissioners to Washington, arbitration being preferred to that stage of degradation. There were whispers at Queretaro of an armistice of three months being on the tapis. A letter dated Vera Cruz, Jan. 14th, says:—A small party of soldiers arrived last night from Jalapa, but they bring no news, except the arrival of Col. Miles's train at that place, without any further loss or attack than what was reported to you a few days since; and that on the 11th it proceeded on the route to Mexico. Every thing remains quiet on the road to the interior, and will continue to do so until there is a chance for peace.

On and after the 1st day of January, three gaming house will be licensed in the city of Mexico. Each one of these will pay in advance, a monthly tax of \$500, and all other gaming houses are positively prohibited, and the property found in unlicensed gaming houses will be confiscated.

Government steamer Ann Chase, is reported to have been lost off Tampico.

The New York Courier and Enquirer (whig) thus sums up our duty to Mexico:

For twenty years Mexico has been no better than a nest of pirates, among whom the persons and property of foreigners have been unsafe; at the same time she has been civilized and represented at all the civilized courts of the world, as a responsible nation. Revolution has succeeded revolution in quick succession. Her military chieftains have violated the rights of foreigners residing within her borders, and trampled upon the quiet and peaceful of her own citizens; and yet we have virtually said to Europe—"Hush off—we are the nation of North America, and will not permit your interference. No monarchy shall be established in our neighborhood."

Such has been our language; and it cannot be denied that while we hold this language—which is just and proper, and which the whole nation is prepared to maintain—we are responsible for the quiet and well-being of Mexico, so far as foreigners are concerned. If we will not permit others to compel her to conduct herself as a civilized nation, it becomes our duty to do it; and from this obligation we may not shrink. It is in evidence, too, that at this very time the peace party in Mexico—the quiet, order-loving among her people—avow their fear that if a peace be negotiated and our army withdrawn, they will again become the prey of the hordes of reckless, worthless, military chieftains, whose only means of living has been, and is, the necessity for their services growing out of the disturbances created by themselves. These vain

pires are now dispersed; and if we will re-establish in Mexico the government of 1824, and leave ten thousand of our troops in her capital, and troops at other points, she can well afford to pay the expense of such army in consideration of the peace and prosperity it would guaranty to her. Such a course of proceeding would give peace, quiet, and prosperity to Mexico, and at once terminate the existing war and the expenditures attending it.

From the Albany Argus.

THE WILMOT PROVISIO CHAMPIONS.

John P. Hale, it will be recollected, bolted from the democratic party on the admission of Texas, and going over to the whigs, became their candidate and that of the voters in New Hampshire for a re-election to Congress. Defeated in that honor, although applauded at the time by the Evening Post, the adjunct of the Atlas and other pro-vice organs, he and his bolting allies were enabled, at a subsequent election, to defeat the democratic party in the Granite State, (as their associates in this State have recently done here), and he was elected by the joint votes of whigs, abolitionists and bolters, to the Senate of the United States.

In his first speech in that body, at the present session, he denounced the war and the President in language more offensive and insolent than even the able whig leaders in that body indulged in. He came out in fierce opposition to the ten regiment bill, declaring that he would vote against the war in all its forms—against any measure for the supply of troops, and against the appropriation of a single dollar beyond the simple amount that would bring home the troops by the shortest and cheapest route. He denounced the origin and object of the war, declared our country in the wrong, and accused the President of falsehood!

On Wednesday, the 12th inst., after Mr. Dickinson had concluded his able and patriotic speech in support of his resolution, the same Mr. Hale rose in his place, and proposed to strike out all after the word resolved, and insert THE WILMOT PROVISIO!

Thus, then, we have "the chief stone of the corner" once more in Congress from a legitimate half-breed!

We shall see how many democratic senators will vote for it, and whether they will identify themselves with the whigs and abolitionists for the sake of a "united vote."

An error, amounting to about seven millions has been discovered in the U. S. Treasury estimate of receipts, made to Congress at the opening of the session. This will enable the Secretary to reduce the loan requested to twelve millions.

TRID WAY IT HAPPENED.—Alexander the Great was fond of eggs roasted in hot ashes. As soon as his cooks heard that he was coming home to dinner or supper, they called aloud to their under officers—"All eggs under the great!" which, being repeated every day at noon and evening, made strangers think that it was the prince's real name, and therefore gave him no other, and poverty has ever since been under the same delusion.

TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.

TURNER, JAN. 8, 1848.

The Oxford Teachers' Association met at this place according to previous adjournment.

Vice President in the Chair.

The proceedings of the last meeting were read by the Secretary.

All to whom parts had been assigned being absent, it was voted that the Association meet again in this place in two weeks from this day.

Voted, that a committee of three be appointed to report some matters of entertainment for the afternoon.

Voted to adjourn for one hour.

Afternoon. Met according to adjournment.

Several of the Teachers reported extensive success which had attended their labors thus far, which reports were of an exceedingly interesting character.

Mr. McKenney, from the committee raised this morning, reported the following resolutions:

1. Does the rapid increase of looks, at the present day, contribute to the advance of Literature.

2. Resolved, That corporal punishment in our primary schools does not tend to improve the mental faculties of the scholar, and does not enable the Teacher to govern his school more easily.

3. Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Association, that no one should become a Teacher in our public schools, who has not qualified himself expressly for this work; and who does not intend to make teaching his business for at least several successive years.

All of which were laid upon the table, the second having been discussed somewhat.

Voted, that we now adjourn.

The Association met according to adjournment. The Secretary being absent, Mr. Bonney of Turner, was appointed Secretary pro tem.

The attendance being small, owing to the bad state of the traveling, it was voted to adjourn to one o'clock P. M.

Afternoon. Met agreeably to adjournment.

Mr. Vinton the Secretary, Mr. Bartlett, the Lecturer, Mr. Porter, Member of the Board of Education, and Mr. C. M. Turner, arrived.

Voted, That the address by Mr. Bartlett be postponed till the next meeting.

Mr. Bartlett submitted his report on Grammar and Grammar books, which, after suggestions made by Messrs. Porter, Ludden, Vinton, Butler, Bonney and McKenney, was laid over to the next meeting; while in the mean time the Secretary caused his publication, in order that greater facilities may be given to Teachers and others in evaluating its merits.

Voted, That when we adjourn it be to meet at Paris on the second Wednesday of March next, at one o'clock P. M.—meeting to continue through the following day.

Adjourned accordingly.

[These two meetings, though sparsely attended, were meetings of interest. They furnish undeniable evidence that the recent attempt to elevate the public schools, is already producing its legitimate result.]

Dec. 16, 1847.

N. B. A few copies of the above work may be had at the Book-store of B. WALTON, Paris Hill.

Sheet Iron!

RUSSIA and English Sheet Iron for sale at
at the Old Store stand of
Wm. E. GOODNOW,
Newbury Village, Oct. 12, 1847.

00	dozen White Shirts, linen bosoms, collars, and wristbands, each	62c.	75c.	31
00	dozen White Shirts, plain	32, 37, 50 cents,		
00	do Striped Cotton Shirts	50, 62		
00	do Twilled stripe shirts	37, 69		
00	do Cotton Flannel Shirts and Drawers	39, 42		
00	do Merino and Angora Shirts and Drawers	62, 73		
00	do Ipswich and Portsmouth Shirts and Drawers	62c., 51		
00	do Royal Ribbed Shirts and Drawers, 55, 73			
00	do Plain and Twilled Red Flannel Shirts and Drawers	65, 75		
00	do Quincey Frocks	75, 91		

A Good Assortment of Spectacles for persons of all ages may be found at the Store of the subscriber. Call and see.
Paris N.H., March 22, 1847. **B. WALTON,**
1846

SAMUEL F. RAWSON,
Deputy Sheriff, & Coroner.
PARIS HILL, OXFORD COUNTY.

☞ All business by Mail, or otherwise, promptly attended to. — Feb. 14, 1845. **tf 41**

Stove Funnel!
SUITABLE for Meeting Houses, Factories,
 Hotels, School Houses, and other buildings, for
 sale at the old Stove Stand of
 W. E. GOODNOW,
Agent for Norway.
 Norway Village, Oct. 12, 1847. 1123

Bricks! Bricks!!
10.000 BRICKS For Sale by
 W. E. GOODNOW.
 Norway, Aug. 29, 1847. 11

ins, Poland; H. Blake, Harrison; Edward Mason
Portland.—Aug. 17, 1847. 1y16

DENTISTRY, DENTISTRY
FILLING; Separating, Cleansing and
Setting Artificial Mineral Pivot Teeth, done by
T. H. BROWN,
PARIS HILL,
Pauze.—Filling with Gold, from 50 to \$1.00.
do Tin Foil, 25 to 50.
Cleansing out of Teeth, 50 to 1.00.
Setting Pivot Teeth, from \$1.00 to 1.50, & 2.0
Work warranted.—March 28, 1851

and excretions, and restoring all the diseased organs of the body to their normal state.

BE FOR CHOLERA INFANTUM, which sweeps so many children, annually, to an untimely grave, has no equal; and no family ought to be without it. Price—50 cents per bottle.

For sale by **CHAS. L. FRANCIS** and **Ron's Novel** Norway Village.

Aug. 12, 1847. if 15

C. W. WALTON,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
MEXICO, MINE.

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